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MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

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STATE OF MONTANA
EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
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'TWO TOP'

This area is just outside of West Yellowstone, Montana. On a clear day, from atop this mountain, you can see down into Idaho and Wyoming and of course back into Montana. The snow on top at times gets to 10 and 12 foot depths. The trees look like Snow Sculptures, and are truly a sight to see.

Cover Photo by - Joan Eaton

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND LABOR FORCE

MONTHLY REPORT

APRIL 1976

STATE OF MONTANA

THOMAS L. JUDGE, GOVERNOR

EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
Box 1728
Helena, Montana 59601

Volume 6 Number 4

Produced by:
Research and Analysis
in cooperation with the
U.S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration
and Bureau of Labor Statistics

GLOSSARY OF TERMS

1. Civilian Labor Force - the number of persons 16 years and older, defined as employed or unemployed, excluding members of the Armed Forces.

2. Employed - those persons who work for pay or profit during a week or, as unpaid family workers, work 15 hours or more during a week. Also included as employed are those who, although not working, had some job attachment and were not looking for work, including persons temporarily absent from a job due to illness, bad weather, vacation, or labor-management dispute, whether or not they were in a pay status during their time off.

3. Unemployment - the number of persons who, for an entire week, did not work at all, were able to work and available for work, and (1) were looking for work or (2) would have looked for work except that (a) they were waiting to return to a job from which they had been laid off, or (b) they were waiting to report to a new wage and salary job scheduled to start within the following 30 days (and were not in school during the week).

4. Unemployment Rate - the number of unemployed expressed as a percent of the civilian labor force.

5. Residence Data - a count of employment by where people live.

6. Establishment Data - a count of employment by where people work.

7. Seasonally Adjusted Labor Force Series - to facilitate the evaluation of the labor force, recurrent yearly movements have been isolated and removed by the Bureau of Labor Statistics seasonal factor method.

8. Composite Index - an aggregate of six leading indicators. The indicators used are: Manufacturing - Employment, Average Weekly Hours, total Accessions and Layoffs; Average Weekly Initial Claims; and statewide Building Permits. A reverse trend was used for Layoffs and Average Weekly Initial Claims. This composite index is in no manner or form comparable to the United States composite index as published in "Business Conditions Digest", U. S. Department of Commerce.

9. Real Spendable Average Weekly Earnings of Private Nonagricultural Production Workers - represents the earnings of a hypothetical individual after deductions for State Income, Federal Income and Social Security taxes, and adjustment for change in purchasing power since 1967. This individual is assumed to be sole support for a family of four, earn the average weekly gross earnings of production workers in Montana's private nonagricultural industries, and take standard deductions on State and Federal income taxes. Taxes were computed using standard tax tables, and purchasing power was adjusted by deflating Spendable Earnings based on the national Consumer Price Index.

10. WIN - Work Incentive Program for Aid to Dependent Children recipients.

11. CETA - Comprehensive Employment and Training Act of 1974.

12. CETA-CEP - Concentrated Employment Program funded under the Comprehensive Employment and Training Act.

13. SMSA - Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area as determined by Office of Management and Budget. Must have a central city with population of 50,000 or more.

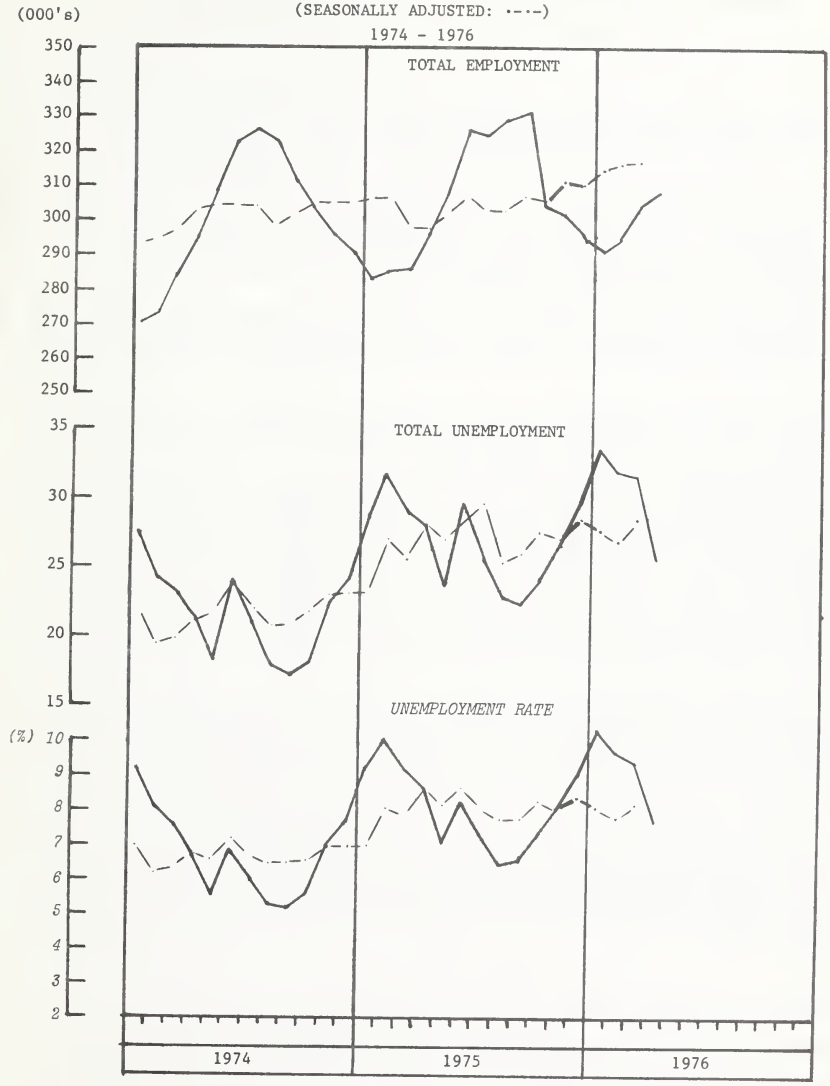
14. LMA - Labor Market Area as determined by the Montana Employment Security Division consists of a central city or cities with population of less than 50,000, and the economically integrated geographical area surrounding it.

MONTANA EMPLOYMENT, UNEMPLOYMENT, AND UNEMPLOYMENT RATE

(NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: ——)

(SEASONALLY ADJUSTED: ·–·–)

1974 - 1976



BUREAU OF LABOR STATISTICS EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT FIGURES, VS ACTUAL STATE OF MONTANA EMPLOYMENT AND UNEMPLOYMENT STATISTICS

The Bureau of Labor statistics compiles national unemployment on the basis of a monthly Current Population Survey (C.P.S.). Twenty-seven states have large enough samples to enable the Bureau to determine those state's unemployment rate. Twenty-three states, in which Montana is included, must determine their unemployment by means of a statistical formula. Because of the difference in methodology, when C.P.S. states are added to non-C.P.S. states, the unemployment rate differs from that of the "National" rate.

Early in 1976 the Office of Management and Budget mandated that the Bureau of Labor Statistics force the aggregate of all states to equal the national C.P.S. estimates. March 4, 1976, this agency was mandated by the Bureau to adjust the state unemployment rate for 1975 and throughout 1976 downward. All states in B. L. S. Region VIII received the same adjustment factors. Analysis of these adjustment factors indicatesthat Montana's unemployment rate would arbitrarily be reduced and end results would be misleading and not representative of Montana's actual economic conditions. Therefore, because this agency owes the public in Montana the most reliable and consistent figures available, Montana's Employment Security Research and Analysis Section will continue to publish what is felt are actual unemployment statistics in this publication. This agency will furnish the Bureau with adjusted figures on required reports, but Montana will not publish them.

Because of the above, Bureau of Labor Statistics publications will not agree with statistics as published by Montana's Employment Security Research and Analysis Section.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTANA LABOR MARKET

APRIL 1976

Total employment in Montana was 303,900 in March with an unemployment rate of 9.4%. Last year for the same month there were 287,300 employed with an unemployment rate of 9.2%.

Total nonagricultural employment for the state was 238,800 or a 1% increase from the previous month, and a 4% rise from one year ago. A major force in helping Montana to recover from the national recession is the lumber and wood products industry which recorded a 15% gain in employment from the same month one year ago. Construction activity also has shown a moderate increase from the 1975 levels as more money becomes available to investors and builders. Wholesale, retail and service trades had 4,000 more employed this year than in March 1975, with most of the increase taking place in the Billings, Great Falls, and Missoula areas.

Total agricultural employment for March was 37,700 with the main activities being soil preparation, calving and lambing. Calving and lambing conditions were good this year with losses below normal. By the end of March, nearly 50% of the calving and 40% of the lambing and shearing were complete. Montana farmers and ranchers are making good progress seeding crops and were well ahead of last year, and about a week ahead of normal by mid-April. The index of prices received by Montana farmers and ranchers for all farm products dropped one point from February to March, influenced mostly by lower food grain prices. The index of prices received for all crops was down 2% from the previous month, while the prices received for livestock was up 1%. The total wheat acreage for the state including winter, hard spring, and durum is expected to be 9% above a year ago. Barley, the second most important grain grown in Montana is expected to seed 15% fewer acres. Sugar beet farmers intended to plant slightly less acreage than last year but the effect of the delay in negotiating a sales contract has not been fully evaluated.

The manufacturing industry's accession rate was 1.5% for February compared with 2.8% for January and 2% for February 1975. Total manufacturing separation rates were 1.9%, down from the 3.5% for one year ago, largely due to the layoffs that occurred one year ago in the primary metals industry, and lumber and wood products. The mining industry's total accession rate was 2.1%, down slightly from one year ago. Mining separation rate was up 1.5% from last year.

Production of crude oil and condensate from the oil and gas areas of Montana for January averaged 88,146 barrels daily, a decrease of 1,358 barrels average production in December and a decrease of 1,132 from January 1975. During January the board issued 35 permits to drill new wells, a decrease of 15 from December and a decrease of 8 from the same period one year ago. Also in January, 77 wells were completed compared with 88 last year.

MANPOWER PROGRAM ACTIVITIES

MARCH 1976

Program	New Enrollees	Job Placements	End of Month Enrollment
WIN	285	109	2,130
CETA-CEP	112	47	260
CETA-INST.	61	31	264
CETA-OJT	45	28	113
JOB CORPS	71	38	278
PSE	196	63	1,284

CONSUMER PRICE INDEX - U. S.[1/]

(1967 = 100)

Group	Mar. 1976	*Percent Change From:* Feb. 1976	Mar. 1975
All Items	167.5	*0.2%*	*6.1%*

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE UNEMPLOYED[2/]

MARCH 1976

Social Characteristics	*Percent of Total Covered Unemployment*
Non-White	*3.7%*
Female	*23.3%*
Youth	*9.2%*
Over 45	*25.1%*

1/ The Consumer Price Index measures changes in prices of goods and services bought by urban wage earners and clerical workers, including families and single persons.

2/ Based on 10% sample of Continued Claims filed during the week including the 19th of each month in all local offices.

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent[1] Montana	Percent[1] U. S.	
1974								
January	298.1	270.5	245.7	24.8	27.6	*9.2*	*5.6*	.1
February	298.2	273.9	249.1	24.8	24.3	*8.1*	*5.7*	*
March	308.2	284.8	254.5	30.3	23.4	*7.6*	*5.3*	*
April	316.4	295.0	261.0	34.0	21.4	*6.8*	*4.8*	*
May	327.8	309.5	270.0	39.5	18.3	*5.6*	*4.6*	4.0
June	346.8	322.8	277.7	45.1	24.0	*6.9*	*5.8*	2.0
July	347.4	326.4	277.7	48.7	21.0	*6.0*	*5.6*	*
August	341.8	323.9	277.9	46.0	17.9	*5.3*	*5.3*	.2
September	329.7	312.4	275.6	36.8	17.3	*5.2*	*5.7*	*
October	322.3	304.2	269.3	34.9	18.1	*5.6*	*5.5*	*
November	319.3	296.9	266.5	30.4	22.4	*7.0*	*6.2*	.1
December	315.1	291.0	265.2	25.8	24.1	*7.7*	*6.7*	*
1974 Avg.	322.6	301.0	265.9	35.1	21.6	*6.7*	*5.6*	.5
1975								
January	308.7	279.8	253.0	26.8	28.9	*9.4*	*9.0*	*
February	309.6	278.2	250.8	27.4	31.4	*10.2*	*9.1*	.1
March	316.6	287.3	257.1	30.2	29.3	*9.2*	*9.1*	.3
April	320.3	292.3	259.4	32.9	28.0	*8.7*	*8.6*	.2
May	327.9	304.3	267.3	37.0	23.6	*7.2*	*8.3*	.1
June	349.1	319.7	278.9	40.8	29.4	*8.4*	*9.1*	.1
July	346.9	321.3	279.1	42.2	25.6	*7.4*	*8.7*	.2
August	350.9	327.9	280.7	47.2	23.0	*6.6*	*8.2*	*
September	340.2	317.7	279.3	38.4	22.5	*6.6*	*8.1*	.3
October	332.6	308.4	274.4	34.0	24.2	*7.3*	*7.8*	.3
November	332.4	305.8	274.3	31.5	26.6	*8.0*	*7.8*	.2
December	330.7	300.6	271.4	29.2	30.1	*9.1*	*7.8*	.2
1975 Avg.	330.5	303.6	268.8	34.8	26.9	*8.1*	*8.5*	.1
1976								
January	324.8	291.2	262.4	28.8	33.6	*10.3*	*8.8*	*
February	326.0	294.2	262.8	31.4	31.8	*9.7*	*8.7*	*
March	335.4	303.9	266.2	37.7	31.5	*9.4*	*8.1*	*
April	*333.5*	*307.9*	*270.1*	*37.8*	*25.6*	*7.7*		*
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.* *Series began January 1970.*
2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.* *Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.*
* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month prelimary*

Table II
GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)
Civilian Labor Force
NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	*Percent 1/* County	State	
1974								
January	31.5	28.6	27.6	1.0	2.9	*9.3*	*9.2*	*
February	31.1	28.7	27.7	1.0	2.4	*7.6*	*8.1*	*
March	31.9	29.6	28.3	1.3	2.3	*7.2*	*7.6*	*
April	32.3	30.3	28.8	1.5	2.0	*6.2*	*6.8*	*
May	32.4	30.4	28.7	1.7	2.0	*6.2*	*5.6*	1.4
June	34.1	31.6	29.6	2.0	2.5	*7.3*	*6.9*	1.2
July	33.9	31.7	29.5	2.2	2.2	*6.4*	*6.0*	*
August	33.8	31.8	29.8	2.0	2.0	*5.8*	*5.3*	*
September	33.2	31.3	29.7	1.6	1.9	*5.6*	*5.2*	*
October	33.1	31.3	29.8	1.5	1.8	*5.5*	*5.6*	*
November	32.1	30.1	28.7	1.4	2.0	*6.3*	*7.0*	*
December	32.2	30.1	29.0	1.1	2.1	*6.6*	*7.7*	*
1974 Avg.	32.7	30.5	29.0	1.5	2.2	*6.7*	*6.7*	.2
1975								
January	31.1	28.5	27.4	1.1	2.6	*8.3*	*9.4*	*
February	31.2	28.2	27.1	1.1	3.0	*9.7*	*10.2*	*
March	31.8	29.0	27.8	1.2	2.8	*8.7*	*9.2*	.1
April	32.5	29.8	28.5	1.3	2.7	*8.3*	*8.7*	.1
May	32.7	30.3	28.8	1.5	2.4	*7.3*	*7.2*	*
June	33.7	30.9	29.3	1.6	2.8	*8.4*	*8.4*	*
July	33.7	31.0	29.3	1.7	2.7	*8.1*	*7.4*	*
August	33.7	31.2	29.3	1.9	2.5	*7.4*	*6.6*	*
September	33.3	30.9	29.4	1.5	2.4	*7.3*	*6.6*	*
October	33.0	30.3	29.0	1.3	2.7	*8.1*	*7.3*	*
November	33.0	30.4	29.2	1.2	2.6	*7.9*	*8.0*	*
December	33.0	30.2	29.0	1.2	2.8	*8.5*	*9.1*	*
1975 Avg.	32.7	30.0	28.6	1.4	2.7	*8.2*	*8.1*	*
1976								
January	32.4	29.2	28.1	1.1	3.2	*9.8*	*10.3*	*
February	32.4	29.4	28.2	1.2	3.0	*9.1*	*9.7*	*
March	33.1	30.0	28.5	1.5	3.1	*9.3*	*9.4*	*
April	*33.4*	*30.8*	*29.3*	*1.5*	*2.6*	*7.7*	*7.7*	*
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. *Series began January 1970.*
2/ Non-additive - included in total employment. *Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.*
* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

Table III

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute[2]
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent[1] County	Percent[1] State	
1974								
January	44.0	40.6	39.5	1.1	3.4	*7.8*	*9.2*	*
February	43.9	41.3	40.2	1.1	2.6	*5.9*	*8.1*	*
March	44.6	42.2	40.6	1.6	2.4	*5.4*	*7.6*	*
April	45.1	42.9	41.2	1.7	2.2	*4.9*	*6.8*	*
May	45.6	43.6	41.6	2.0	2.0	*4.4*	*5.6*	.5
June	48.1	45.0	42.7	2.3	3.1	*6.3*	*6.9*	.5
July	47.9	45.4	42.9	2.5	2.5	*5.3*	*6.0*	*
August	47.0	44.9	42.5	2.4	2.1	*4.4*	*5.3*	*
September	46.1	44.1	42.2	1.9	2.0	*4.4*	*5.2*	*
October	46.6	44.7	42.9	1.8	1.9	*4.2*	*5.6*	*
November	45.9	43.6	42.0	1.6	2.3	*5.0*	*7.0*	*
December	45.8	43.3	42.0	1.3	2.5	*5.4*	*7.7*	*
1974 Avg.	45.9	43.5	41.7	1.8	2.4	*5.3*	*6.7*	*
1975								
January	45.4	42.0	40.8	1.2	3.4	*7.6*	*9.4*	*
February	45.1	41.5	40.2	1.3	3.6	*8.0*	*10.2*	*
March	45.6	42.0	40.6	1.4	3.6	*7.9*	*9.2*	.1
April	46.8	43.4	41.9	1.5	3.4	*7.3*	*8.7*	*
May	47.1	44.5	42.8	1.7	2.6	*5.6*	*7.2*	*
June	49.0	45.6	43.7	1.9	3.4	*7.0*	*8.4*	*
July	49.5	46.3	44.4	1.9	3.2	*6.5*	*7.4*	*
August	49.2	46.1	43.9	2.2	3.1	*6.2*	*6.6*	*
September	48.5	45.6	43.8	1.8	2.9	*5.9*	*6.6*	.2
October	48.4	45.6	44.0	1.6	2.8	*5.8*	*7.3*	.2
November	49.2	46.4	45.0	1.4	2.8	*5.8*	*8.0*	*
December	48.6	45.4	44.1	1.3	3.2	*6.5*	*9.1*	*
1975 Avg.	47.7	44.5	42.9	1.6	3.2	*6.7*	*8.1*	*
1976								
January	47.4	43.7	42.4	1.3	3.7	*7.9*	*10.3*	*
February	47.2	43.9	42.5	1.4	3.3	*7.0*	*9.7*	*
March	48.0	44.5	42.8	1.7	3.5	*7.2*	*9.4*	*
April	*49.2*	*46.5*	*44.8*	*1.7*	*2.7*	*5.5*	*7.7*	*
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.* *Series began January 1970.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.* *Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.*

* *Under 50.* *Current month in italics is a forecast; previous month preliminary.*

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table IV

MONTANA

Statewide Employment by Industry

MARCH 1976

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Mar. 1976	Feb. 1976	Mar. 1975	Net Changes to Current Month from: Feb. 1976	Mar. 1975
1. Civilian Labor Force	335.4	326.0	316.6	9.4	18.8
2. Unemployment	31.5	31.8	29.3	-.3	2.2
Percent of Labor Force[1/]	*9.4*	*9.7*	*9.2*	*-.3*	*.2*
3. Employment, Total	303.9	294.2	287.3	9.7	16.6
(a) Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Adjusted for Dual Job Holders (Residence Data)	236.6	233.9	227.6	2.7	9.0
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY (Establishment Data)	*238.8*	*236.1*	*229.6*	*2.7*	*9.2*
MANUFACTURING	*21.4*	*21.8*	*20.5*	*-.4*	*.9*
Durable Goods	*13.7*	*13.7*	*12.9*	*0*	*.8*
24 Lumber and Wood Products	*8.2*	*8.3*	*7.1*	*-.1*	*1.1*
33 Primary Metal Industries	*2.9*	*2.9*	*3.3*	*0*	*-.4*
Other Durable Goods	*2.6*	*2.5*	*2.5*	*.1*	*.1*
Nondurable Goods	*7.7*	*8.1*	*7.6*	*-.4*	*.1*
20 Food and Kindred Products	*3.4*	*3.8*	*3.4*	*-.4*	*0*
27 Printing and Publishing	*1.9*	*1.9*	*1.9*	*0*	*0*
29 Petroleum and Coal Products	*1.1*	*1.1*	*.9*	*0*	*.2*
Other Nondurable Goods	*1.3*	*1.3*	*1.4*	*0*	*-.1*
NONMANUFACTURING	*217.4*	*214.3*	*209.1*	*3.1*	*8.3*
Mining	*5.8*	*5.8*	*6.9*	*0*	*-1.1*
10 Metal Mining	*2.3*	*2.3*	*3.5*	*0*	*-1.2*
12 & 14 Bitum. Coal, Quarrying, Nonmetal Mining	*1.6*	*1.6*	*1.4*	*0*	*.2*
13 Oil and Gas Extraction	*1.9*	*1.9*	*2.0*	*0*	*-.1*

Contract Construction	10.4	10.2	10.1	.2	.3
15 General Building Contractors	4.0	3.9	4.2	.1	-.2
16 Heavy Construction Contractors	2.2	1.8	1.8	.4	.4
17 Special Trade Contractors	4.2	4.5	4.1	-.3	.1
Transportation and Public Utilities	18.9	18.8	18.5	.1	.4
40 Railroad Transportation	5.9	5.9	6.1	0	-.2
41-47 Transportation, except Railroad	5.8	5.6	5.4	.2	.4
48 & 49 Commun., Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	7.2	7.3	7.0	-.1	.2
Wholesale and Retail Trade	58.4	57.4	56.5	1.0	1.9
Wholesale Trade	11.9	12.0	11.7	-.1	.2
Retail Trade	46.5	45.4	44.8	1.1	1.7
53 & 56 Ret. Gen. Merch., Apparel, Accessories	7.9	7.9	7.4	0	.5
54 Food Stores	6.3	6.4	6.3	-.1	0
55 Automotive Dealers, Service Stations	7.8	7.8	8.0	0	-.2
58 Eating and Drinking Places	14.8	13.7	13.8	1.1	1.0
52, 57, 59 Bldg. Mat., Farm Equip., Furn., Misc.	9.7	9.6	9.3	.1	.4
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	10.6	10.3	10.0	.3	.6
Services	45.7	44.9	43.6	.8	2.1
70 Hotels and other Lodging Places	5.0	4.9	5.2	.1	-.2
72 Personal Services	2.5	2.4	2.5	.1	0
80 Medical and other Health Services	14.6	14.6	14.1	0	.5
Other Services	23.6	23.0	21.8	.6	1.8
Government	67.6	66.9	63.5	.7	4.2
91 Federal Government	13.2	13.2	12.9	0	.3
92 State Government	19.9	19.5	19.1	.4	.8
State Education	9.8	9.5	9.0	.3	.8
Other State Government	10.1	10.0	10.1	.1	0
93 Local Government	34.5	34.2	31.5	.3	3.1
Local Education	22.2	22.1	20.0	.1	2.3
Other Local Government	12.3	12.1	11.5	.2	.8
(b) All other Nonagricultural Employment[2/]	29.6	28.9	29.5	.7	.1
(c) Agriculture	37.7	31.4	30.2	6.3	7.5
4. Persons involved in labor/management disputes[3/]	*	*	.3	-	-

*1/ Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers. * Under 50. Current month preliminary. Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.*
2/ Includes nonagricultural self-employed and unpaid family workers, and domestic workers in private households.
3/ Non-Additive, included in Line (a). Establishment Series began January 1964; Residence Series began January 1970.
Produced in cooperation with U.S. Dept. of Labor Employment and Training Administration and Bureau of Labor Statistics.

RESIDENCE DATA
(ESTABLISHMENT DATA in italics)

Table V

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

MARCH 1976

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Mar. 1976	Feb. 1976	Mar. 1975	Net Changes to Current Month from: Feb. 1976	Mar. 1975
1. Civilian Labor Force	33.1	32.4	31.8	.7	1.3
2. Unemployment	3.1	3.0	2.8	.1	.3
Percent of Labor Force[1]	*9.3*	*9.1*	*8.7*	*.2*	*.6*
3. Employment, Total	30.0	29.4	29.0	.6	1.0
(a) Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Adjusted for Dual Job Holders (Residence Data)	26.2	26.0	25.5	.2	.7
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY (Establishment Data)	*27.3*	*27.0*	*26.3*	*.3*	*1.0*
MANUFACTURING	*1.7*	*1.7*	*1.7*	*0*	*0*
NONMANUFACTURING	*25.6*	*25.3*	*24.6*	*.3*	*1.0*
Contract Construction	*1.3*	*1.2*	*1.2*	*.1*	*.1*
Transportation and Public Utilities	*1.8*	*1.8*	*1.9*	*0*	*-.1*
Wholesale and Retail Trade	*8.2*	*8.1*	*7.9*	*.1*	*.3*
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	*1.9*	*1.9*	*1.8*	*0*	*.1*
Services and Mining	*6.3*	*6.2*	*5.8*	*.1*	*.5*
Government	*6.1*	*6.1*	*6.0*	*0*	*.1*
(b) All other Nonagricultural Employment[2]	2.3	2.2	2.3	.1	0
(c) Agriculture	1.5	1.2	1.2	.3	.3
4. Persons involved in labor/management disputes[3]	*	*	.1	-	-

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.* *Current month preliminary.*
2/ *Includes nonagricultural self-employed and unpaid family workers, and domestic workers in private households.* *Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.*
3/ *Non-additive, included in Line (a).* ** Under 50.*
Establishment Series began January 1958. *Residence Series began January 1970.*
Produced in cooperation with U. S. Dept. of Labor Employment & Training Administration and Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table VI

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Employment by Industry

MARCH 1976

in Thousands

INDUSTRY	Mar. 1976	Feb. 1976	Mar. 1975	Net Changes to Current Month from: Feb. 1976	Mar. 1975
1. Civilian Labor Force	48.0	47.2	45.6	.8	2.4
2. Unemployment	3.5	3.3	3.6	.2	-.1
Percent of Labor Force[1]	*7.2*	*7.0*	*7.9*	*.2*	*-.7*
3. Employment, Total	44.5	43.9	42.0	.6	2.5
(a) Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Adjusted for Dual Job Holders (Residence Data)	38.6	38.4	36.5	.2	2.1
NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY (Establishment Data)	*38.9*	*38.6*	*36.6*	*.3*	*2.3*
MANUFACTURING	*3.1*	*3.4*	*2.9*	*-.3*	*.2*
NONMANUFACTURING	*35.8*	*35.2*	*33.7*	*.6*	*2.1*
Contract Construction	*2.0*	*1.9*	*1.8*	*.1*	*.2*
Transportation and Public Utilities	*3.2*	*3.2*	*3.4*	*0*	*-.2*
Wholesale and Retail Trade	*12.9*	*12.6*	*11.7*	*.3*	*1.2*
Finance, Insurance and Real Estate	*2.0*	*2.0*	*1.9*	*0*	*.1*
Services and Mining	*8.2*	*8.1*	*7.7*	*.1*	*.5*
Government	*7.5*	*7.4*	*7.2*	*.1*	*.3*
(b) All other Nonagricultural Employment[2]	4.2	4.1	4.1	.1	.1
(c) Agriculture	1.7	1.4	1.4	.3	.3
4. Persons involved in labor/management disputes[3]	*	*	*	-	-

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.* *Current month preliminary.*
2/ *Includes nonagricultural self-employed and unpaid family workers, and domestic workers in private households.* *Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.*
3/ *Non-additive, included in Line (a).* * *Under 50.*
Establishment Series began January 1958. *Residence Series began January 1970.*
Produced in cooperation with U. S. Dept. of Labor Employment & Training Administration and Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table VII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Jan.* 1976	Feb. 1976	Mar. 1976	Jan. 1976	Feb. 1976	Mar. 1976	Jan. 1976	Feb. 1976	Mar. 1976	Jan. 1976	Feb. 1976	Mar. 1976
STATEWIDE	324.8	326.0	335.4	291.2	294.2	303.9	33.6	31.8	31.5	*10.3*	*9.7*	*9.4*
GREAT FALLS SMSA	32.4	32.4	33.1	29.2	29.4	30.0	3.2	3.0	3.1	*9.8*	*9.1*	*9.3*
BILLINGS SMSA	47.4	47.2	48.0	43.7	43.9	44.5	3.7	3.3	3.5	*7.9*	*7.0*	*7.2*
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	245.0	246.4	254.3	218.3	220.9	229.4	26.7	25.5	24.9	*10.9*	*10.3*	*9.8*
ANACONDA-BUTTE	35.8	35.7	36.4	31.4	31.6	32.6	4.4	4.1	3.8	*12.2*	*11.6*	*10.5*
BOZEMAN	23.7	23.9	24.7	21.4	21.6	22.5	2.3	2.3	2.2	*9.9*	*9.4*	*8.7*
GLASGOW	15.7	15.9	16.6	14.3	14.6	15.3	1.4	1.3	1.3	*8.6*	*8.4*	*7.7*
GLENDIVE	13.1	13.3	13.8	12.1	12.3	12.8	1.0	1.0	1.1	*7.7*	*7.8*	*7.7*
HARDIN-RED LODGE	10.7	10.9	11.3	9.8	9.9	10.3	.9	1.0	1.0	*8.6*	*9.2*	*9.3*
HAVRE	11.6	11.8	12.2	10.6	10.8	11.3	1.0	1.0	.9	*8.2*	*8.2*	*7.1*
HELENA	21.6	21.6	22.2	19.6	19.7	20.3	2.0	1.9	1.9	*9.3*	*8.6*	*8.5*
KALISPELL	32.6	32.7	33.9	27.4	27.7	28.8	5.2	5.0	5.1	*15.9*	*15.1*	*15.2*
LEWISTOWN	10.6	10.7	11.1	9.7	9.9	10.3	.9	.8	.8	*8.6*	*8.1*	*7.5*
MILES CITY	13.2	13.4	13.8	12.0	12.2	12.7	1.2	1.2	1.1	*8.8*	*8.6*	*7.8*
MISSOULA	39.8	39.7	40.8	34.8	35.1	36.2	5.0	4.6	4.5	*12.6*	*11.7*	*11.3*
SHELBY-CUT BANK	16.6	16.8	17.5	15.2	15.5	16.3	1.4	1.3	1.2	*8.5*	*8.0*	*7.0*

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on page 29. See map on inside back cover.
2/ Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.
** Revised to show correction from Jan. 1976, last month published.*

TABLE VIII

MONTANA LABOR MARKET AREAS[1/]

Civilian Labor Force

in Thousands

	CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE			EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT RATE		
	Mar. 1976	Mar. 1975	Percent Change 1975-1976	Mar. 1976	Mar. 1975	Percent Change 1975-1976	Mar. 1976	Mar. 1975	Net Change 1975-1976	Mar. 1976	Mar. 1975	Net Change 1975-1976
STATEWIDE	335.4	315.4	6.3	303.9	286.4	6.1	31.5	29.0	2.5	9.4	9.2	.2
GREAT FALLS SMSA	33.1	32.5	1.8	30.0	29.7	1.0	3.1	2.8	.3	9.3	8.5	.8
BILLINGS SMSA	48.0	45.3	6.0	44.5	41.7	6.7	3.5	3.6	-.1	7.2	7.9	-.7
BALANCE OF STATE[2/]	254.3	237.6	7.0	229.4	215.0	6.7	24.9	22.6	2.3	9.8	9.5	.3
ANACONDA-BUTTE	36.4	35.1	3.7	32.6	31.6	3.2	3.8	3.5	.3	10.5	9.9	.6
BOZEMAN	24.7	23.7	4.2	22.5	21.4	5.1	2.2	2.3	-.1	8.7	9.5	-.8
GLASGOW	16.6	14.7	12.9	15.3	13.8	10.9	1.3	.9	.4	7.7	6.4	1.3
GLENDIVE	13.8	12.0	15.0	12.7	11.3	12.4	1.1	.7	.4	7.7	5.7	2.0
HARDIN-RED LODGE	11.3	10.2	10.8	10.3	9.2	13.0	1.0	1.0	0	9.3	9.5	-.2
HAVRE	12.2	11.0	10.9	11.3	10.2	10.8	.9	.8	.1	7.1	7.0	.1
HELENA	22.2	21.5	3.3	20.3	20.0	1.5	1.9	1.5	.4	8.5	7.1	1.4
KALISPELL	33.9	30.2	12.3	28.8	25.3	13.8	5.1	4.9	.2	15.2	16.0	-.8
LEWISTOWN	11.1	9.3	19.4	10.3	8.6	19.8	.8	.7	.1	7.4	6.1	1.3
MILES CITY	13.8	13.5	2.5	12.7	12.9	-1.6	1.1	.7	.4	7.8	5.4	2.4
MISSOULA	40.8	40.1	1.7	35.3	35.5	2.3	4.5	4.5	-.1	11.3	11.4	-.1
SHELBY-CUT BANK	17.5	16.3	7.4	16.3	15.2	7.2	1.2	1.1	.1	7.0	7.2	-.2

1/ A list of counties included in each Labor Market Area appears on page 29. See map on inside back cover.
2/ Statewide, excluding Great Falls and Billings Standard Metropolitan Statistical Areas.

Table IX

MONTANA

FEMALE EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

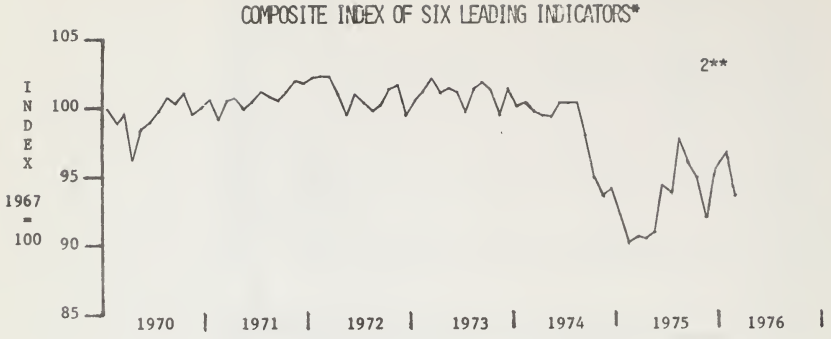
March 1976

(In Thousands)

INDUSTRY	FEMALE EMPLOYMENT					TOTAL EMPLOYMENT COMPARISON			
				Net Change to Current Month From:					
	Mar.[1] 1976	Feb. 1976	Mar. 1975	Feb. 1976	Mar. 1975	Total	Percent Women	Total	Percent Women
						March 1976[1]		March 1975	
Nonagricultural Wage & Salary Workers .	97.0	95.4	91.2	1.6	5.8	238.8	*40.6*	229.6	*39.7*
Manufacturing	2.6	2.6	2.3	0	.3	21.4	*12.1*	20.5	*11.2*
Nonmanufacturing	94.4	92.8	88.9	1.6	5.5	213.5	*44.2*	209.1	*42.5*
Mining	.3	.3	.3	0	0	5.8	*5.2*	6.9	*4.3*
Contract Construction	.8	.8	.7	0	.1	10.4	*7.7*	10.1	*6.9*
Transportation & Public Utilities .	3.5	3.5	3.4	0	.1	18.9	*18.5*	18.5	*18.4*
Wholesale & Retail Trade	23.9	23.0	22.8	.9	1.1	58.4	*40.9*	56.5	*40.4*
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate ..	6.5	6.4	6.0	.1	.5	10.6	*61.3*	10.0	*60.0*
Services	28.6	28.3	27.1	.3	1.5	45.7	*62.6*	43.6	*62.2*
Government[2]	30.8	30.5	28.6	.3	2.2	67.6	*45.6*	63.5	*45.0*

1/ Current month preliminary. Revised to 1975 Benchmark. Establishment Series began January 1974.
2/ Includes all civilian employees of Federal, State, and Local Governments regardless of the activity in which the employee is engaged.
Prepared by the Montana Employment Security Division in Cooperation with the U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

ECONOMIC INDICATORS



Composite Index of SIX LEADING INDICATORS 1967 = 100

1975	
January	92.1
February	90.0
March	90.5
April	90.4
May	90.8
June	94.2
July	93.7
August	97.6
September	95.7
October	94.7
November	91.8
December	95.2
1976	
January #	96.6
February	93.5
March	
April	
May	
June	
July	
August	
September	
October	
November	
December	

MONTANA's COMPOSITE INDEX

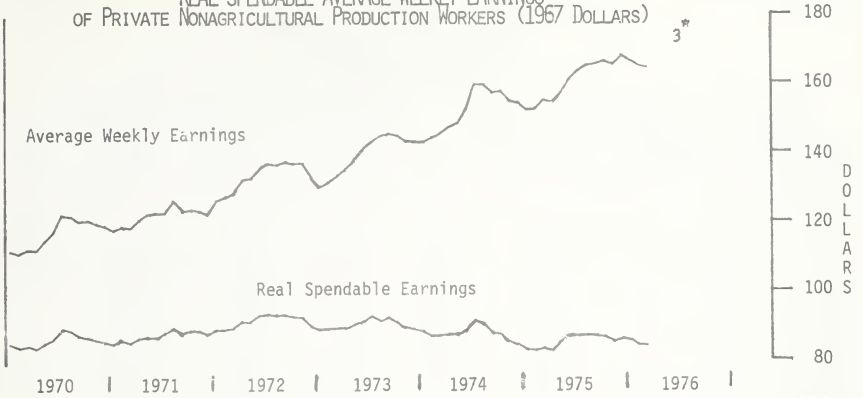
Two of six leading indicators show positive trends for February. Average Weekly Hours and Building permits were up, while Accessions, Layoffs, Weekly Initial Claims, and Manufacturing Employment fell, pulling this month's Composite Index below January's promising rise to 96.6. February's Composite Index is down 3.2% from January 1976 and up 3.9% from February of 1975.

* *Employment, Average Weekly Hours, Total Accessions, and Layoffs in Manufacturing; Building Permits, and Average Weekly Initial Unemployment Insurance Claims.*

** *Indicates last month of plotted data.*

\# *Change reflects corrections in January index value.*

REAL SPENDABLE AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS OF PRIVATE NONAGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION WORKERS (1967 DOLLARS)



	Mar. 1976	Feb. 1976	Mar. 1975
Gross Average Weekly Earnings	$ 164.16	$ 164.98	$ 155.09
Taxes Withheld	23.10	23.35	23.21
Spendable Earnings	141.06	141.63	131.88
Adjustment for Price Changes Since 1967	56.85	56.86	48.30
Real Spendable Earnings in 1967 Dollars	84.21	84.77	83.58

1975	Average Weekly Earnings 1/	Real Spendable Earnings 2/
Jan.	$152.28	$83.19
Feb.	152.80	82.90
Mar.	155.09	83.58
Apr.	154.22	82.77
May	157.24	85.48
Jun.	160.81	86.37
Jul.	163.52	86.63
Aug.	165.07	87.04
Sep.	165.53	86.81
Oct.	165.98	86.48
Nov.	165.34	85.67
Dec.	167.81	86.36
1976		
Jan.	165.89	85.35
Feb.	164.98	84.77
Mar.	164.16*p*	84.21*p*
Apr.		
May		
June		

Gross average weekly earnings declined in March to $164.16 from $164.98 in February. On the other hand, our national Consumer Price Index from March 1975 to March 1976 experienced its slowest yearly growth rate since the time period between July 1972 and July 1973. This diminished inflation rate estimate has minimized the decline in real spendable earnings from $84.77 in February to $84.21 in March. In the long run, however, real spendable earnings for March 1976 has improved since March 1975.

** Indicate last month of plotted data.* *p: Preliminary*

1/ Average weekly earning of total private nonagricultural production workers.

2/ Real spendable average weekly earnings of private nonagricultural production workers.

MONTANA CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED
(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ Montana	U. S.	
1974								
January	315.1	293.2	257.5	35.7	21.9	7.0	5.2	.1
February	314.2	294.7	260.4	34.3	19.5	6.2	5.2	*
March	317.1	297.2	261.8	35.4	19.9	6.3	5.1	*
April	318.6	297.2	265.1	32.1	21.4	6.7	5.0	*
May	325.5	303.9	267.3	36.6	21.6	6.6	5.2	4.0
June	327.8	304.1	267.9	36.2	23.7	7.2	5.2	2.0
July	326.6	304.6	266.5	38.1	22.0	6.7	5.3	*
August	319.2	298.4	267.0	31.4	20.8	6.5	5.4	.2
September	322.6	301.7	270.5	31.2	20.9	6.5	5.8	*
October	327.3	305.6	268.1	37.5	21.7	6.6	6.0	*
November	328.5	305.5	268.7	36.8	23.0	7.0	6.6	.1
December	328.2	305.1	269.1	36.0	23.1	7.0	7.2	*
1974 Avg.	322.6	301.0	265.9	35.1	21.6	6.7	5.6	.5
1975								
January	326.0	303.0	265.8	37.2	23.0	7.0	8.2	*
February	326.4	300.0	263.3	36.7	26.4	8.1	8.2	.1
March	326.0	300.0	265.2	34.8	26.0	8.0	8.7	.3
April	323.2	295.6	262.7	32.9	27.6	8.5	8.9	.2
May	325.6	299.0	265.1	33.9	26.6	8.2	9.2	.1
June	327.4	299.7	267.7	32.0	27.7	8.4	8.6	.1
July	327.8	301.3	268.9	32.4	26.5	8.1	8.4	.2
August	329.3	302.9	270.2	32.7	26.4	8.0	8.4	*
September	333.1	306.3	273.7	32.6	26.8	8.1	8.3	.3
October	336.4	308.4	273.1	35.3	28.0	8.3	8.6	.3
November	341.0	313.0	275.4	37.6	28.0	8.2	8.3	.2
December	343.5	314.0	274.6	39.4	29.5	8.6	8.3	.2
1975 Avg.	330.5	303.6	268.8	34.8	26.9	8.1	8.5	.1
1976								
January	342.2	314.5	275.2	39.3	27.7	8.1	7.8	*
February	342.9	316.1	275.4	40.7	26.8	7.8	7.6	*
March	344.9	316.5	274.2	42.3	28.4	8.2	7.5	*
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*
2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.*
* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

RESIDENCE DATA

Table X

GREAT FALLS SMSA (CASCADE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1974								
January	32.8	30.3	28.8	1.5	2.5	7.6	7.0	*
February	32.4	30.3	28.8	1.5	2.1	6.5	6.2	*
March	32.6	30.4	28.9	1.5	2.2	6.7	6.3	*
April	32.4	30.2	28.8	1.4	2.2	6.8	6.7	*
May	32.4	30.2	28.6	1.6	2.2	6.8	6.6	1.4
June	32.5	30.3	28.7	1.6	2.2	6.8	7.2	1.2
July	32.6	30.5	28.7	1.8	2.1	6.4	6.7	*
August	32.6	30.5	29.1	1.4	2.1	6.4	6.5	*
September	32.5	30.5	29.2	1.3	2.0	6.2	6.5	*
October	33.2	31.1	29.5	1.6	2.1	6.3	6.6	*
November	32.7	30.5	28.9	1.6	2.2	6.7	7.0	*
December	32.8	30.6	29.1	1.5	2.2	6.7	6.0	*
1974 Avg.	32.7	30.5	29.0	1.5	2.2	6.7	6.7	.2
1975								
January	32.4	30.3	28.7	1.6	2.1	6.5	7.0	*
February	32.7	30.0	28.5	1.5	2.7	8.3	8.1	*
March	32.5	29.9	28.5	1.4	2.6	8.1	8.0	.1
April	32.6	29.8	28.5	1.3	2.8	8.7	8.5	.1
May	32.4	29.9	28.6	1.3	2.5	7.8	8.2	*
June	32.2	29.7	28.5	1.2	2.5	7.8	8.4	*
July	32.4	29.8	28.5	1.3	2.6	8.2	8.1	*
August	32.5	29.8	28.5	1.3	2.7	8.2	8.0	*
September	32.7	30.0	28.8	1.2	2.7	8.2	8.1	*
October	33.0	30.0	28.7	1.3	3.0	9.0	8.3	*
November	33.6	30.8	29.3	1.5	2.8	8.3	8.2	*
December	33.4	30.5	29.0	1.5	2.9	8.8	8.6	*
1975 Avg.	32.7	30.0	28.6	1.4	2.7	8.2	8.1	*
1976								
January	33.7	31.0	29.3	1.7	2.7	8.0	8.1	*
February	33.8	31.2	29.5	1.7	2.6	7.8	7.8	*
March	33.9	31.0	29.3	1.7	2.9	8.6	8.2	*
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.*

* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.
Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.
Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table XI

BILLINGS SMSA (YELLOWSTONE COUNTY)

Civilian Labor Force

SEASONALLY ADJUSTED

(in Thousands)

Date	Civilian Labor Force	EMPLOYMENT			UNEMPLOYMENT			Labor Management Dispute 2/
		Total	Non-Ag	Agri.	Total	Percent 1/ County	Percent 1/ State	
1974								
January	45.4	42.5	41.0	1.5	2.9	6.4	7.0	*
February	45.1	42.9	41.4	1.5	2.2	4.9	6.2	*
March	45.5	43.4	41.7	1.7	2.1	4.6	6.3	*
April	45.6	43.1	41.4	1.7	2.5	5.5	6.7	*
May	45.8	43.4	41.5	1.9	2.4	5.2	6.6	.5
June	46.4	43.6	41.6	2.0	2.8	6.0	7.2	.5
July	46.6	44.1	42.1	2.0	2.5	5.4	6.7	*
August	46.2	44.0	42.0	2.0	2.2	4.8	6.5	*
September	46.2	43.9	42.3	1.6	2.3	5.0	6.5	*
October	46.2	43.9	42.0	1.9	2.3	5.0	6.6	*
November	45.6	43.2	41.4	1.8	2.4	5.3	7.0	*
December	45.8	43.5	41.7	1.8	2.3	5.0	7.0	*
1974 Avg.	45.9	43.5	41.7	1.8	2.4	5.3	6.7	*
1975								
January	46.9	44.0	42.3	1.7	2.9	6.2	7.0	*
February	46.6	43.3	41.6	1.7	3.3	7.0	8.1	*
March	46.5	43.3	41.7	1.6	3.2	7.0	8.0	.1
April	47.3	43.7	42.2	1.5	3.6	7.6	8.5	*
May	47.3	44.3	42.8	1.5	3.0	6.3	8.2	*
June	47.3	44.2	42.7	1.5	3.1	6.5	8.4	*
July	47.8	44.7	43.3	1.4	3.1	6.5	8.1	*
August	48.2	45.0	43.4	1.6	3.2	6.5	8.0	*
September	48.6	45.4	43.9	1.5	3.2	6.6	8.1	.2
October	48.0	44.8	43.2	1.6	3.2	6.7	8.3	.2
November	49.0	45.9	44.2	1.7	3.1	6.3	8.2	*
December	49.0	45.8	44.0	1.8	3.2	6.6	8.6	*
1975 Avg.	47.7	44.5	42.9	1.6	3.2	6.7	8.1	*
1976								
January	49.0	45.8	44.0	1.8	3.2	6.6	8.1	*
February	48.7	45.7	43.8	1.9	3.0	6.0	7.8	*
March	48.9	45.8	43.9	1.9	3.1	6.4	8.2	*
April								
May								
June								
July								
August								
September								
October								
November								
December								
Avg.								

1/ *Computed from whole (unrounded) numbers.*

2/ *Non-additive - included in total employment.*

* *Under 50.*

Series began January 1970.

Revised to 1975 Benchmarks.

Current month preliminary.

NOTE: Seasonally adjusted data are provided for statistical analysis only and should not be confused with actual numbers.

Table XII

MONTANA HOURS AND EARNINGS

For Private Nonagricultural Industries

March 1976

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Mar. 1976	Feb. 1976	Mar. 1975	Mar. 1976	Feb. 1976	Mar. 1975	Mar. 1976	Feb. 1976	Mar. 1975
TOTAL PRIVATE	$164.16	$164.98	$155.09	36.0	36.1	35.9	4.56	4.57	4.32
MANUFACTURING	215.81	214.89	189.38	38.4	37.9	35.8	5.62	5.67	5.29
Durable Goods	208.44	213.40	183.91	38.6	38.8	35.3	5.40	5.50	5.21
Primary Metal Industries	262.40	260.69	230.22	40.0	39.8	39.9	6.56	6.55	5.77
Nondurable Goods	229.02	213.21	203.13	37.3	35.3	37.0	6.14	6.04	5.49
Food and Kindred Products	218.44	189.26	203.84	38.8	34.1	39.2	5.63	5.55	5.20
MINING	288.81	286.88	249.07	42.1	42.5	41.1	6.86	6.75	6.06
Metal Mining	276.86	276.86	242.41	40.3	40.3	38.6	6.87	6.87	6.28
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	288.00	298.65	267.05	37.5	37.9	35.0	7.68	7.88	7.63
TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC UTILITIES	259.15	262.70	252.15	41.2	41.5	43.4	6.29	6.33	5.81
Communications, Electric, Gas, Sanitary Services	224.07	227.57	202.15	38.5	38.9	39.1	5.82	5.85	5.17
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	139.35	136.35	120.74	36.1	35.6	35.1	3.86	3.83	3.44
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	124.02	125.92	118.45	36.8	37.7	36.9	3.37	3.34	3.21
SERVICES	106.53	107.57	104.32	31.8	32.4	32.6	3.35	3.32	3.20

Data for current month are preliminary.
Averages are based on gross earnings, including overtime and premium pay.
Selected Industries series began January 1950; Total Private Sector series began January 1969 (May 1972 issue).
Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Table XIII

MONTANA LABOR TURNOVER RATES

In Manufacturing and Mining Industries

(per 100 employees)

February 1976

	ACCESSION RATES						SEPARATION RATES					
	Total			New Hires			Total			Quits			Layoffs		
	Feb. 1976	Jan. 1976	Feb. 1975	Feb. 1976	Jan. 1976	Feb. 1975	Feb. 1976	Jan. 1976	Feb. 1975	Feb. 1976	Jan. 1976	Feb. 1975	Feb. 1976	Jan. 1976	Feb. 1975
MANUFACTURING	1.5	2.8	2.0	1.1	2.1	0.9	1.9	2.5	3.5	0.6	1.6	0.7	0.9	0.4	2.3
Durable Goods	1.5	2.8	2.5	0.9	1.8	1.0	1.1	2.5	3.6	0.6	1.2	0.9	*	0.6	2.1
Primary Metal Industries	1.1	1.6	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	2.3	3.5	3.5	0.4	0.7	0.4	*	1.3	2.6
Nondurable Goods	1.5	3.0	1.0	1.4	2.6	0.6	3.2	2.6	3.4	0.8	1.9	0.5	2.2	0.3	2.6
MINING	2.1	1.6	2.2	0.9	0.5	0.7	3.8	2.4	2.3	0.5	0.3	0.8	2.5	1.4	0.7
Metal Mining	0.4	1.6	1.0	*	0.1	0.0	1.2	3.1	2.0	0.1	0.4	0.4	0.5	1.3	0.3

* *Less than .05.*
Prepared by U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics.
Series began January 1959.

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY INDUSTRY

New business firms in Montana are a reflection of economic activity within the business community. Data furnished on this page and the following page are an aggregate of information supplied by the office of the Montana Secretary of State and the Montana Employment Security Division. These data should in no way be construed as being absolute. They are presented to indicate business trends during the survey period.

The chart on the following page is a break-down by county and labor market area of business starts in Montana during the current month and year to date, with a comparison to the previous year.

The following chart is a break-down of new businesses by industry, with a comparison to last year.

Industry	Mar. 1976	Mar. 1975	Year to Date 1976	Year to Date 1975
AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES	18	21	60	85
MINING	2	3	15	18
CONTRACT CONSTRUCTION	20	20	78	67
MANUFACTURING	7	4	23	20
TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATION, ELECTRIC, GAS, AND SANITARY SERVICES	3	5	15	15
WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE	23	34	100	130
FINANCE, INSURANCE, AND REAL ESTATE	22	11	71	63
SERVICES	48	54	215	219
GOVERNMENT	0	0	0	0
NOT ELSEWHERE CLASSIFIED	0	0	0	0
STATE TOTAL	143	152	577	617

NEW BUSINESS FIRMS IN MONTANA

BY LABOR MARKET AREA

Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS			
			Year to Date	
	Mar. 1976	Mar. 1975	1976	1975
STATE OF MONTANA	143	152	577	617
GREAT FALLS SMSA	6	23	61	57
BILLINGS SMSA	17	24	79	91
ANACONDA-BUTTE LMA	18	10	50	53
Beaverhead	2	1	9	12
Deer Lodge	5	0	6	5
Granite	0	0	0	1
Madison	1	1	1	7
Powell	2	1	5	5
Silver Bow	8	7	29	23
BOZEMAN LMA	9	14	41	53
Gallatin	8	12	34	44
Meagher	1	0	2	2
Park	0	2	5	7
GLASGOW LMA	7	3	37	29
Daniels	2	1	11	5
Phillips	0	0	0	4
Roosevelt	0	1	5	12
Sheridan	1	0	10	1
Valley	4	1	11	7
GLENDIVE LMA	6	4	21	24
Dawson	3	3	9	8
Garfield	0	1	1	3
McCone	1	0	5	4
Prairie	0	0	2	1
Richland	2	0	4	7
Wibaux	0	0	0	1
HARDIN-RED LODGE LMA	4	8	13	19
Big Horn	3	3	6	9
Carbon	1	3	5	6
Stillwater	0	0	2	2
Sweet Grass	0	2	0	2

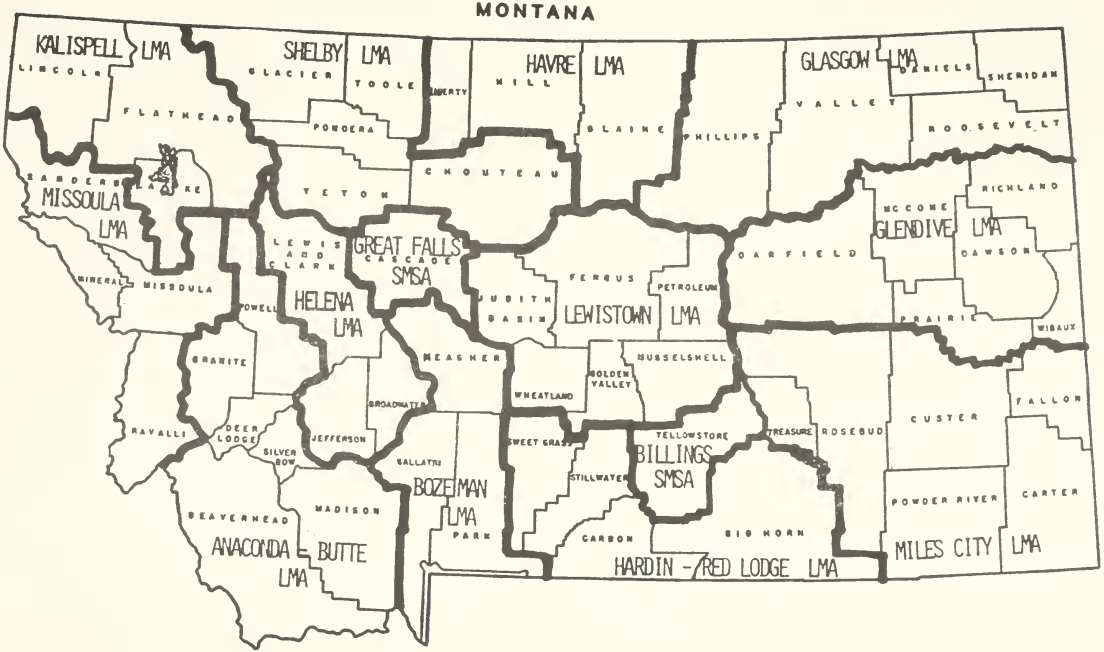
Areas	NEW BUSINESS FIRMS			
			Year to Date	
	Mar. 1976	Mar. 1975	1976	1975
HAVRE LMA	10	6	24	29
Blaine	1	2	3	6
Hill	6	4	17	19
Liberty	3	0	4	4
HELENA LMA	5	6	34	37
Broadwater	0	0	0	2
Jefferson	1	0	3	2
Lewis and Clark	4	6	31	33
KALISPELL LMA	20	13	65	62
Flathead	15	9	45	39
Lake	5	3	17	14
Lincoln	0	1	3	9
LEWISTOWN LMA	3	4	11	9
Fergus	1	2	7	5
Golden Valley	0	0	1	0
Judith Basin	0	0	0	0
Musselshell	1	1	2	2
Petroleum	1	0	1	0
Wheatland	0	1	0	2
MILES CITY LMA	9	10	28	37
Carter	0	0	1	3
Custer	4	8	11	15
Fallon	0	1	3	3
Powder River	2	0	3	2
Rosebud	3	1	10	13
Treasure	0	0	0	1
MISSOULA LMA	22	22	84	85
Mineral	0	1	1	6
Missoula	15	16	63	60
Ravalli	1	4	10	8
Sanders	6	1	10	11
SHELBY-CUT BANK LMA	7	5	28	32
Chouteau	0	0	5	4
Glacier	3	0	8	10
Pondera	1	3	2	7
Teton	3	2	7	6
Toole	0	0	6	5

Source of data: State of Montana Employment Security Division, Research and Analysis Section; Montana Secretary of State.

LABOR MARKET AREAS

IN

MONTANA



EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DIVISION
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRY
P. O. Box 1728
Helena, Montana 59601

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OFFICIAL BUSINESS

The Montana State Employment Service maintains 23 local employment offices in the principal cities of Montana. You are invited to call on any of these offices for assistance in filling positions in your organization, additional labor market information, and for other services in connection with your employment problems.